



USC EASC <eastasianstudiescenter@gmail.com>

EASC eNewsletter - March 18, 2026

USC East Asian Studies Center <easc@dornsife.usc.edu>

Wed, Mar 18, 2026 at 9:30 AM

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USC Dornsife *East Asian Studies Center*

March 18, 2026



Congratulations 2026 EASC Graduate Fellowship Awardees!

Please join us in congratulating the **38 recipients** of the **EASC Graduate Fellowship Awards** totaling **over \$70,000!** Our **2026 EASC Grad Fellows** represent diverse fields in East Asian Area Studies, American Studies & Ethnicity, Anthropology, Art History, East Asian Languages & Cultures, English, History, Linguistics, Political Science & International Relations, Religion, Communications and Cinema & Media Studies. We are pleased to support USC graduate students as they advance their academic careers in Asian Studies and look forward to highlighting the research they will undertake this summer upon their return!

These awards are made possible with additional support from the **ACE-Nikaido Fellowship Fund**, **Tsai Family Research Fund** and the **Wills Graduate Research Fellowship Fund**.

Upcoming Events

Joint Book Talks on South Korean Social Activism

Wed, April 8 | 3:00PM–4:50PM | AHN | [RSVP](#)

Professors **Jennifer Chun** (UCLA, Asian American Studies) and **Judy Han** (UCLA, Gender Studies) will discuss their latest books, *Against Abandonment: Repertoires*

of *Solidarity in South Korean Protest* and *Queer Throughlines: Spaces of Queer Activism in South Korea and the Korean Diaspora*. *Against Abandonment* is an ethnographic study of the widespread culture of protest in South Korea that examines both its significant achievements and inherent precarity. And *Queer Throughlines* offers a rare account of the transnational Korean LGBTQ+ activist movement since the 1990s with a specific focus on its intersections with various other social movements.



The event is organized by the USC [Korean Studies Institute](#) and co-sponsored by the [Consortium for Gender, Sexuality, Race and Public Culture](#), Departments of [Gender and Sexuality Studies](#) and [East Asian Languages and Cultures](#), and the [East Asian Studies Center](#).



EASC Guest Speaker Series

Page and Stage: The Printing of Drama in the Late Ming

Mon, April 13 | 4:10PM-5:50PM | **RSVP**

Prof. [Menxiao Wang](#) (EALC) invites the wider community to a Zoom talk by Prof. [Yuming He](#) (UC Davis) as part of her EALC 506 course on *Classical Chinese Literature*. The late Ming was an age of print, and drama was one of its most dynamic forms. How

did printers and scholars manage the way drama was presented on the page? How did that management, easily overlooked within our own assumptions about textual organization, not only raise questions about the place of drama, but also help answer them? This talk discusses the characteristic strategies used by late-Ming bookmakers to organize dramatic texts in print, and explores how these editorial acts allowed such imprints to enter broader intellectual and cultural life where a critical position within the popular became possible.

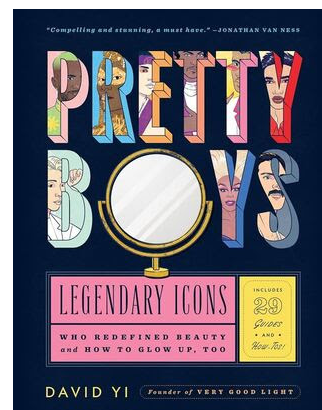
Zoom link will be provided closer to the event to those who RSVP.

EASC Guest Speaker Series

Between Export and Inheritance: Korean American Identity in the Age of K-Beauty

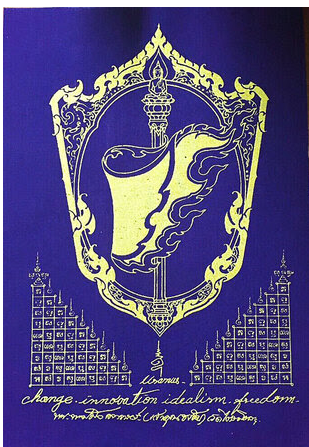
Wed, April 15 | 3:30PM-5:00PM | AHN | **RSVP**

Prof. [Sunyoung Park](#) invites the wider community to an event with [David Yi](#) as part of her EALC 430 course on *Gender and Sexuality in Korean Literature and Culture*, David Yi is a USC alum and co-founder of Very Good Light and the gender-inclusive beauty brand good light. He is the author of *Pretty Boys, the history of men, masc-identifying folx, beauty and masculinity*. In this talk, he will focus on discussing a central paradox of the present



moment: as Korean culture - through K-beauty, K-pop and media, and overall Korean capitalism - achieves unprecedented global visibility, Korean Americans often remain culturally peripheral to that success. Drawing from his work as a writer and founder in the K-beauty industry, the talk explores questions of belonging, authorship and power at the intersection of diaspora, capitalism, and cultural export.

This event is co-sponsored by the USC [Korean Studies Institute](#), Department of [Gender and Sexuality Studies](#) and the [Consortium for Gender, Sexuality, Race and Public Culture](#).



EASC Guest Speaker Series

Trump Yantra: The Material Culture of Symbiotic Provisions between Thai Monks and Laity

Mon, April 20 | 2:00PM-3:20PM | [RSVP](#)

Prof. [Jessica Zu](#) (REL) invites the wider community to a Zoom talk by Prof. [Susanne Kerekes](#) (Trinity College) as part of her REL 342 course on *Buddhist Modernism*. Through a case study of two talismanic yantra created by a Thai monk at the request of lay business owners, this talk argues that the symbiotic relationship between clergy and laity often manifests in material ways. Moreover, it suggests that monks may also gain merit, or rather, prestige, when the material culture that they bestow upon the laity are proven efficacious. In other words, symbiotic provisions illustrate the salience of Buddhist material culture in defining Thai monastic-communal relations, and it highlights monks' mutual dependence on lay commissions for enhancement of their spiritual power and social prestige.

Zoom link will be provided closer to the event to those who RSVP.

Event Reminders



Spring 2026 EASC Grad Connect **Thurs, Mar 26 | 12:00PM-1:30PM | CAS 100** **[RSVP](#)**

Enjoy food, drinks and conversation with fellow graduate students in Asian studies across USC. Graduate students from any field are welcome, providing an opportunity to meet peers and learn about the resources for Asian studies. *Open to graduate students only.*



Spring 2026 EASC Faculty Meeting and Book Launch **Thurs, April 9 | 11:30PM-1:30PM | Univ. Club** **[RSVP](#)**

EASC hosts its annual Faculty Luncheon Meeting and Book Launch event. We look forward to having the opportunity to share recent developments, reconnect with each other

and celebrate the latest publications of our affiliated faculty. *Open to EASC affiliated faculty and staff only.*

EASC Undergrad Connect Event Wrap

Thanks for joining EASC at the **Spring 2026 Undergrad Connect** event last Wednesday! A special thanks to the Japanese and Chinese language faculty and the Korean Studies Institute for sharing upcoming opportunities with the undergraduate students and to the Dornsife undergraduate student services advisor for meeting with our students!



OPPORTUNITIES



Call for Proposals for the 28th Annual UCLA Graduate Student Conference

Deadline: March 31, 2026

The **UCLA Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies** Graduate Student Conference invites papers from graduate students across all departments within the humanities and the social sciences whose research includes Japan. The conference theme this year is *Temporal*

Entanglements and will take place on **May 18-19, 2026** at UCLA. Submissions for individual papers and presentations from graduate students at all levels are welcome. Proposals may cover a diverse field of topics and approaches, and can span chronology and geography. Accepted participants are also encouraged to join us after the conference for a workshop headed by the keynote speaker Dr. **Atsuko Ueda**, Professor of East Asian Studies at Princeton University. *The Terasaki Center will cover domestic travel and lodging for three nights for those coming from outside the Los Angeles area.* For more information and to submit an abstract, please go to the [form here](#).

Tenure Track Assistant Professor Position in History of Science and Technology in East Asia

Deadline: March 2026

The **Department of History at Purdue University** invites applications for a **tenure-track, assistant professorship in the History of Science and Technology in East Asia**. The successful candidate will develop and teach undergraduate and graduate courses in East Asian history and the History of Science and Technology in East Asia, broadly defined to include its social, cultural, political, environmental, legal, military, economic, or transnational aspects, and will



contribute to the intellectual life of the department. *Review of applications will begin on April 1, 2026.* For details and to apply, please [click here](#).



Non-Tenure Track Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor in Asian Art History

Deadline: March 30, 2026

The [Department of Art & Art History at William & Mary](#), a public university of the Commonwealth of Virginia, invites applications for a **two-year, non-tenure track Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor** instructional position that will begin August 10, 2026. They are seeking an individual with expertise in Asian Art History; able to teach general surveys of Asian Art as well as more specialized courses in East, Southeast, and/or South Asian Art History. The successful applicant will be expected to be an effective teacher and will have a 3-3 teaching load. For additional information on the position and instructions on how to apply, please go to the [careers page](#).

Events Around USC & LA

Devoted to You / Love Unto Waste

Sun, Mar 22 | 7:00PM-10:00PM | UCLA Center for Chinese Studies

Undergraduate Fellows Exchange Conference

Fri, Mar 27 | 9:00AM-5:00PM | Korean Studies Institute

The Women of Flower Drum Song

Sun, Mar 29 | 2:00PM-4:00PM | Japanese American National Museum | [RSVP](#)

Diamond in the Dust: Reviving Manzanar's Baseball Legacy

Fri, Apr 3 | 3:00PM-4:00PM | Shinso Ito Center | [RSVP](#)

From Coreano to Coreguayo: Korean Migration and Identity in Paraguay

Mon, Apr 13 | 4:00PM | UCLA Center for Korean Studies

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Comments? Questions? Promotion requests?
easc@dornsife.usc.edu

For more news and information about the USC East Asian Studies Center visit usc.edu/easc

USC Dornsife

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